

**Camden Select Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
July 5, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Martin Cates, Vice Chairperson Morgan Laidlaw, John French, Jr., James Heard, Donald White, Town Manager Roberta Smith, and Town Attorney William Kelly. Also present were members of the press and public.

***Contents***

**1. Public input on non-agenda items.**

- a. Nancy Caudle – Johnson- Pearl Street resident – wanted to speak about the CMP Smart Meter program. Chairman Cates stated there is already an item on the agenda for Smart Meters so this is not a non-agenda item. Nancy stated it's a presentation by CMP she then asked if the public was going to be allowed to make presentations when CMP is done. Martin Cates said their goal is to listen to what CMP has to say. If you have an item that you would like to bring up at a later date you are certainly welcome to ask that be put on another date. Right now we already have an agenda item and that's with CMP. Nancy urged that this is different and Martin told her the Board was not going to allow this tonight because they are here to listen to CMP do their presentation and he does not consider this request a non-agenda item. Nancy said it is a non-agenda item because what she is going to do is give information to the Board that is different than CMP. Certainly the fact that the City of Bath has passed an ordinance against smart meters is different. Martin asked if she was proposing an ordinance tonight. She said she wanted to discuss and make a presentation. Martin told her they could put her request on the next agenda in two weeks. Nancy said she didn't think that legally the Board could refuse her the right to make her comments tonight but if that is the only option that the Board is going to allow then that is exactly what she should do.
- b. Laurie Wolfrum – Goodwind Lane resident – stated she too would like to speak out against Smart Meters. Martin Cates told her it is not a non-agenda item because we already have an agenda item that is dealing with the Smart Meter presentation. It is for informational purposes only. It is the next item on the agenda and if you too would like to come with Nancy at the next meeting we will put it on the agenda. Laurie stated she would be happy to do that but she wanted to say it is different because what CMP is doing is pro smart meters that's what they get paid to do and she is concerned about them for various reasons and she is not pro smart meter so it is different than what is on the agenda. Martin Cates said he would be happy to put it on the next agenda.
- c. Board member Don White – acknowledged that Gateway 1 was honored recently with a Friends of Midcoast Maine Award – 2011 Smart Growth Award for upholding the principles of smart growth for continuing collaborative efforts to integrate transportation and land use decisions, working to maintain a grassroots bottom up approach to decision making working together despite the lack of State of Maine support or participation building support for action items contained in the Gateway

1 report to support Smart Growth in the midcoast in order to maintain our vibrant communities and protect the capacity of Route 1 corridor.

Mr. White further stated that the Gateway 1 group met last week and our continuing the process of phasing out the implementation steering committee phase and replacing it with the Gateway 1 coalition. They expect the process will be completed by November 1<sup>st</sup> and the town will be informed on bylaws and the process of naming a member and an alternate.

2. **Presentation from CMP regarding Smart Meters installation.** CMP Representative Steve Daniels was present and gave a presentation to the Board and the community regarding the installation of Smart Meters.

CMP started looking at their metering program two to three years ago trying to look at the next phase in the technologies of all the different components that they use. There is a lot of talk about smart grids, smart phones, and smart meters. What this means is you will have the ability to communicate with the equipment and the equipment can send information back to you that is the limit of its smartness. As they were progressing through this process the Dept of Energy through the energy policy act was providing grants to utilities to upgrade their infrastructure and they received \$96 million from the Depart of Energy for their smart meter system. That is approximately half the cost and they will recover their investment through the efficiencies gained in the program over the next 15-20 years. The Energy policy act directed utilities to upgrade their technology to smart grid technology. Subsequent to that the Maine legislature came out with its own directive telling utilities to upgrade to smart grid technology and then following that the Public Utilities Commission directed utilities to pursue the smart meter program. They went out to bid and the only responses received were for wireless smart grid meters even though they did not put that into their bid specifications as a requirement. They have found that there are no US companies that make electromechanical meters.

Bangor Hydro changed out their meters about five years ago to an earlier version of a smart grid technology that uses a power line carrier to bring the information from the meter back to their office. Portland Water District changed out its metering system to another upgraded version of smart meters where you drive down the street and point a device at each meter and it wirelessly sends the signal as they drive by. All of these have been forerunners to the system that they are installing now.

The meters will be installed on a mesh network which means that meters will send its information to another meter which relays it onto the next meter until it reaches a repeater system on the poles and then to a collector system and back up to the head end of the system at their office. There are multiple steps along the way. It's called a self healing system in that if a meter drops off the meters have alternate paths to send the information so CMP is still able to get the information. The meter itself looks like the meters you have now except it has no moving parts. It has a digital display window so you can read the meter and it indicates that is active.

The installation process will be done by VSI Meter Services, the meter installation contractor. They will be responsible for installing the meters. They will be driving white vehicles marked with their company's name and a CMP logo or easy identification. The entire process takes about 10 minutes. They will do a visual inspection, cut the seal, remove

the cover, take a digital photograph of the existing meter and the interior of the meter box, remove the old meter, install the new meter, take a voltage test, close it back up.

The actual time power is off is about 1 minute. They leave a door hanger to let people know they changed out the meter. Customers who do not want the new meters have two opt out options. One they can keep their existing analog meter and pay \$40 up front and a \$12 a month charge on their CMP bill; or two they can keep the smart meter with its wireless transmitter disconnected for a \$20 fee up front and \$10.50 per month charge. These charges are intended to cover CMP's direct costs. The monthly charge will pay to have the meter read manually. The upfront charge is to pay for refurbishing old meters for continued use or if the option is for the smart meter with the disconnected transmitter, for the software to disconnect the transmitter.

The lower power radio equipment in CMP's smart meters is certified by the United States Federal Communications Commission, ensuring compliance with appropriate safety standards. A smart meter communicates information about electricity use with other meters and with CMP by sending very brief radiofrequency (RF) signals. The smart meter transmits about 4 seconds a day the worst case would be 45 seconds a day. The actual signal strength is 1/7000<sup>th</sup> of what the FCC allows. The PUC did not want to open an investigation on whether they were safe because they have been approved by the FCC and the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and they are approved for the use that CMP is using them.

One of the advantages of this type of meter for the resident is it opens up time of use pricing. Currently there is no time of use Standard Offer supply option for customers. In the future there may be a web portal where you can log into your CMP account and look at your usage on an hourly, daily, weekly, etc usage. If you can't measure it you can't manage it. These meters allow for the hourly measurement and management of electricity. The website will also take your usage and put it into the time of use rates and you can see if you would have saved money by being on time of use based on your existing usage pattern. The opportunity still exist for you to change your usage to use high load items at the least cost time periods if you choose to and take further advantage of the time of use pricing. The meters are considered green in because CMP will drive about 2,000,000 fewer miles every year that equates to about 1,400 tons of carbon dioxide that we won't be putting into Maine's atmosphere. If you choose to take advantage of using the information to reduce your electrical usage it reduces your carbon footprint. Other advantages are no more shoveling paths to the meter, no more estimated readings, and the meters will send a signal when the power is out.

The Smart Grid system will eliminate jobs for meter readers but recognizing their responsibility to these employees, CMP recently negotiated an Enhanced Transition Agreements related to the Advanced Meter Infrastructure project. This plan will offer opportunities for voluntary retirements, re-assignments and support those jobs displaced by this new technology. Over the next 18 months they will see significant changes in their workforce but are uncertain at this time how many will choose retirement, find new assignments within the company or accept a voluntary severance with the enhanced benefits they have been able to offer.

The Town of Scarborough passed a moratorium that the PUC investigate opt out and also asked that CMP not install meters during the period of investigation which they honored.

He reported the following information regarding moratoriums set by other towns:

The Town of Cape Elizabeth passed a moratorium also and CMP had already installed 82% of the meters at that time and they continued on their schedule as it turned out it did not interfere with their moratorium because the moratorium was for 90 days and they were not scheduled to be there for that time period.

The Town of Sanford also passed a moratorium asking that the PUC investigate and that moratorium has expired and they are proceeding with their installation.

The City of Bath is a little different because theirs is a town ordinance and the City Council will be deciding tomorrow night if they want to proceed with that ordinance. They are taking another look at it based on decisions by the PUC and recommendations of legal counsel.

People are concerned that their information may not be private. CMP cannot by law share your usage information with anyone but the PUC. There is some concern with it being broadcast. It is encrypted when it leaves the meter. They had to provide their security plan to the Department of Energy and it was approved by them.

Moved ahead to item #12.

12. **Approval of bid specifications for the proposed new fire truck.** Fire Chief Farley summarized both the process and the specifications recommended by the Truck Committee.

Manager Smith stated part of the reason we pulled this from the June ballot was so that they could get firm bids on a new truck still order the truck in FY12 and bond payments would not begin until FY13. Since this will be a bond question for November 2011 the Budget Committee will be asked to review once the bids are opened and make a recommendation for funding.

*Donald White made a motion to approve the bid specifications for the new fire truck with bids due by August 3, 2011. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

3. **Approval to apply for Heart and Soul grant through the Orton Family Foundation.** Jane Lafleur of Friends of Midcoast Maine presented the Heart and Soul grant to improve downtown planning and develop a strategy for workforce housing. The town match would be a total of \$100,000 with a minimum of \$25,000 in cash; the rest could be in kind or staff time. The grant could be used for a number of projects, including (1) development of a downtown plan including such areas as pedestrian traffic flow, parking, etc., (2) marketing programs or (3) affordable/work force housing. The Orton grant is for a two-year effort, while the downtown plan is a more immediate need.

*John French made a motion to approve the submittal of the Orton Family Foundation Heart and Soul grant application with authorization for Roberta Smith and Brian Hodges to serve as the primary Town contacts. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Moved ahead to item #6.

6. **Consideration of request from Meg Cressler and Mark Hannibal for use of public space for mobile food wagon.** Mark Hannibal stated that mobile vendors have been around forever. In the early days, people were making bread and rolling it around in carts. People made food in their apartments and hawked it on the streets. He said today's mobile vendors incorporate social media and "cool trucks" into a traditional way of sharing food. He grew up with Mexican food and loves Mexican food and wanted to offer his cooking skills in Mexican food to the public again and thought this would be a fun way to do it. They would like to use the option of using public space to park.

Town Attorney Kelly stated the hawkers and peddles ordinance does not apply to vending food. The Hawkers and Peddlers statute is vintage 1987 and it clearly does not apply to food. There does not appear to be a mechanism for Camden to give a license or permit for a mobile vending business within the public spaces which would be parks, streets, parking lots or other public properties. That does not prohibit them from having a space on private property and issue a victualer license.

Alicia Landi – owner of Smoothie Shack – has a few concerns with this issue. When she first decided to have her shack in Camden there was a lot of issues. You can't stop in the middle of the road and sell food, where are they going to park. It does not seem possible or feasible for that to happen. It would be impossible to sell food out of a parking space. How about electricity, water, is the vehicle going to be left running. She does not think they should be allowed to park in front of other businesses. People already pay a lot to have their business here and she does not think they would want other businesses blocking theirs.

*John French made a motion to deny the request for use of public space for a mobile food wagon. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

7. **Consideration of license agreement with VSMH Corporation at 71 Chestnut Street for underground utilities** Town Attorney Kelly stated that this is standard license agreement for underground electrical utilities as proposed by Heritage Builders on behalf of the owner, VSMH Corporation on 71 Chestnut Street.

*Morgan Laidlaw made a motion to approve license agreement as drafted. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Went back to item #4

4. **Appointment of the members to the Board of Assessment Review, Camden Conservation Commission, Camden Housing Committee, Camden Rockport Pathways Committee, Cemetery Association, CEDAC, Energy Committee, Harbor Committee, Historic Resources Committee, Megunticook Dams Committee, Opera House Committee, Parking Committee, Parks & Recreation Committee, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals.** Chairman Cates stated as an outcome of the workshop that the Board held last week it decided the committee structure needs further review, in most cases

prior to making new appointments/ re-appointments. This year, in an attempt to better understand town committee work and to address the concerns above, the Board would like to begin an in-depth review of town committees and boards. This review includes the assessment of the purpose, review of the missions, and consideration of how to refresh the process to interest potential volunteers. A survey will be sent out to the town committees/boards asking for their input and to return the surveys to the Select Board by August 9<sup>th</sup>.

In the meantime, with the exception of the Cemetery Association, the Harbor Committee, the Opera House Committee, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Select Board has decided to extend any expiring terms for 60 days and will take up new or re-appointments in September.

Cemetery Association

*John French made a motion to reappoint Larry Gross, Patricia Ayers, and Kristine Lerner as regular members with terms to expire June 2014. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Harbor Committee

*John French made a motion to reappoint Gene McKeever and Ray Williamson as regular members with terms to expire June 2014; and reappoint Ben Cashen as an alternate member with a term to expire June 2012. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Opera House Committee

*John French made a motion to appoint Kate Bates and Maryanne Shanahan as new regular members with terms to expire June 2014; and appoint Aimee Phelan-Deconinck and Robert Williams as alternate members with terms to expire June 2012. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Planning Board

*John French made a motion to reappoint Chris MacLean as a regular member with a term to expire June 2016; and to reappoint Sid Lindsley and Nancy McConnel as alternate members with terms to expire June 2012. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Zoning Board of Appeals

*John French made a motion to reappoint Thomas Laurent and Frank Toole as regular members with terms to expire June 2014; and to reappoint Linda Norton and Jean Belair as alternate members with terms to expire June 2012. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

5. **Assignment of Select Board Liaisons to Town Committees and Boards.** This item was tabled.
8. **Consideration of request from Chestnut Street Baptist Church to use the Village Green on Sunday, September 4, 2011 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm for a morning church service.**

*John French made a motion to approve the request for use of the Village Green for the Chestnut Street Baptist Church. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

- 9. Bid Award: Laite Beach Improvements.** Manager Smith reported the town received two bids for the proposed Laite Beach Improvement project, and are well within the project estimates and the funding of the FY12 Budget. The project work period is specified as September 6 to November 4. She recommended the Board award the base bid to Jake Barbour, Inc. in the amount of \$106,900.

*John French made a motion to award the base bid for the Laite Beach Improvement project to Jake Barbour, Inc. in the amount of \$106,900, and to table the option for the parking areas. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

- 10. Review and approval of the FY12 Snow Bowl Budget.** The Board reviewed the FY12 Snow Bowl Budget. Jeff Kuller, Manager of Camden Snow Bowl also reported on the Snow Bowl Capital Improvement Plan and reported on a recap of the season in numbers regarding the Snow Bowl statistics from this winter.

*John French made a motion to approve the FY12 Snow Bowl Budget as presented. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

- 11. Review and approval of the FY12 Seabright Hydro Budget.** The Board reviewed the FY12 Seabright Hydro Budget. Manager Smith reported it appears that we are in a good position this year relative to projected revenues from energy production.

*John French made a motion to approve the FY12 Seabright Hydro Budget as presented. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

***John French made a motion to close as Select Board and reconvene as Wastewater Commissioners. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.***

- 1. Bid award for the manhole replacement.** Wastewater Superintendent announced that he obtained proposals for the sewer manhole replacement as part of the Route 1 paving project. He recommends the Board approve the proposal from Ferraiolo Construction in the amount of \$7,325.

*John French made a motion to accept the proposal submitted by Ferraiolo Construction in the amount of \$7,325. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

***Donald White made a motion to close as Wastewater Commissioners and reconvene as Select Board. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.***

- 13. Confirmation of Town Manager's appointment of Assistant Town Manager.** John French made a motion to confirm the Manager's appointment of Carol Sue Greenleaf as Assistant Town Manager for the period July 10 through July 23. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.

- 14. Committee Reports.** There were none.

**15. Manager's Report**

- a. Mrs. Smith reported in the Board's packet was a copy of the continued energy supply agreement with Maine Power Options. We have saved about .015 per kilowatt on our medium accounts. She has opted in for another year.
- b. The boating facility project agreement for Bog Bridge on Route 105 is ready for the Board's signatures. It lines out the provisions we had last summer with the Route 52 boat ramp.
- c. The chamber deck has been replaced and a couple course shingles on the front side of the roof need to be replaced. Jeff Kuller received a quote around \$2000 to reshingle the roof on the front side of the building.

*John French made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$2,000 from contingency to reshingle the front side of the roof of the chamber building. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

*John French made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Janice L. Esancy  
Recording Secretary